

CHAPTER EIGHT

Protectorate Development

THE people of all the States of the Protectorate are, for the most part, hardworking and competent farmers depending as they do primarily on agriculture for their living. Fate has not treated them very kindly, having so arranged matters that the areas with the most tillable land have the smallest rainfall. The absence of rain is compensated for in some places by the presence of water-courses which, though dry for most of the year, become flooded during the late summer and autumn when there is, normally, heavy rain in the hills. These flood waters have, in Lahej and in Abiyan and in one or two other areas, been harnessed and an irrigation system spreads the water over the land and the valuable cotton and other crops are the result. 241 •

The idea of developing the Abiyan plain was conceived by Brian Hartley, the then Director of Agriculture in 1940, when shortage of foodstuffs, due to the World War, turned everyone's thoughts to finding alternative local sources of supply which would not be affected by shortage of shipping and the interruption of normal sea communications. Abiyan is a flat open plain triangular in shape with the apex buried in the Yafa hills and the broad base along the shores of the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean. It slopes gently from north to south and it is intersected by two large Wadis, the Bana and the Hassan. These two Wadis run far up into the highlands of the Yemen and every summer the seasonal floods come rushing down them as the rain clouds from the Indian Ocean break over the distant hills. These floods are rich in silt which fertilizes the soil on which it is deposited. Hundreds of years ago 654 241 133 133 132 312 134 •••

• 241 Hundreds of years ago Aden

133 the value of these silt-laden seasonal floods was realised by the
312 people of the plain, and they initiated an elaborate irrigation
134 system, the remains of which exist to the present day. Years of
926 inter-tribal warfare which benefited no-one, brought the
original system to ruin and the land went out of cultivation
and the silt-laden waters rushed unimpeded headlong to the
sea to discolour the ocean for many miles.

654 Hartley started with a modest capital of £10,000 granted
312 by His Majesty's Government for the purchase of seed grain
241 and for the hiring of bullocks to build dams and till the ground;
648 and with this modest sum he was able to bring 700 acres under
[926] cultivation. The tribes were loath to give up what had become
their battle-field, and their silly futile squabbles interrupted
Hartley's efforts until the patience of the Aden Government
was exhausted and measures were taken to enforce security
in the area.

648 Once the World War was over, food production was no
654 longer of paramount importance, and with the economic
248 future of the area in mind long staple Egyptian cotton cultivation
178 was successfully introduced, and by an Administrative
Order of my predecessor, an organisation known as the
Abiyan Board was set up to manage the whole agricultural
project. Additional capital to the extent of £270,000 was
obtained as a loan from His Majesty's Government and there
was rapid development, so that by the time I became Governor
several thousand acres were under cotton cultivation. The
Board directed the agricultural policy of the area, was responsible
for pest control, owned and operated the heavy agricultural
machinery necessary for the economic working of the land,
owned and operated two cotton ginning factories, controlled
the distribution of flood water through the irrigation canals
and channels, and was responsible for the shipping and marketing
of the cotton crop.

648 In spite of the changed circumstances of the Board they
continued to function by virtue of the original Administrative
Order. All efforts by my predecessor to regularise the position
by persuading the Fadli and Lower Yafa States, within whose
territories Abiyan is situated, to enact decrees failed owing to
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245 camel from the high hills of the interior. Coffee will not grow below 4,000 ft. at the latitude of Aden and the Yemen.

244 Away to the east on the Audhali plateau and in the other

243 high regions, wheat and barley are cultivated by well water

312 irrigation from shallow wells, and apricot trees grow naturally

245 among the fields and grape vines run over the trees that border

the grassy valleys. Much attention has been given to increasing

the fruit cultivation and to the growing of tomatoes and other

(177) vegetables in the summer time when the low lying plains are

far too hot. Plums and apples and peaches and walnuts have

been introduced successfully, and lower down citrus culti-

262 vation has had surprisingly good results. Originally, of course,

178 the idea was that these fruits and vegetables would be available

433 to the Colony markets and to a certain extent this has proved

to be true, but no-one anticipated the extent to which local

consumption of vegetables and fruit would increase in the

(177) Protectorate itself. It is extraordinary how quickly people

will develop a taste for new varieties of vegetables, as I had

found in Muscat when I first introduced cabbages. Nobody

had seen them before and at first I had to give them away and

persuade people to eat them, but it was not long before they

came and helped themselves. It was much the same in the

Protectorate with lettuce, which was looked upon with distrust

when I first travelled to Loder and Mukeiras, but by the time

I left twenty-five years later no meal was complete without a

dish of salad.

243 Down in the plains the main crops are sorghum and bullrush

262 millet which grow throughout the Protectorate and provide

the staple diet of the people who grind and pound the grain

into coarse flour from which they make a very palatable un-

245 leavened bread. Where water is available in sufficient quantity

312 as at Lahej and in the Wadi Hadhrami, there are extensive

244 date-palm plantations and bananas, and other Eastern fruits are

cultivated with particular emphasis on the melons which

flourish abundantly and are of excellent quality.

• 241 Two things have handicapped agricultural development in

441 the Protectorate. The first of these is lack of money and the

second lack of a suitable marketing organisation. The power to

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remedy the first need was never in my hands, but the opportunity to produce some form of marketing organisation was, and it has taken shape and should be on the way to finding new and extending old markets for the fruit and vegetables of the Protectorate. It will have to overcome the conservative ideas of the Boards of Directors of Shipping Companies who prefer the more expensive Egyptian produce nicely wrapped up in pink paper to cheaper and better quality produce unwrapped. Nasser has possibly helped the Marketing Officer indirectly, and a judicious purchase of pink paper and elegant crates, for which of course they will be charged, will persuade the P. & O. S.N. Company, The Orient Line, the British India and other Shipping Companies to support a Protectorate which has so far remained loyal in the face of grave provocation. I made every effort I could personally to interest the vast purchasing power of the 22,000,000 net registered tons of shipping using Aden port every year, but I made no impression.

The primary need was undoubtedly for money, but that was the one thing that was not forthcoming in sufficient quantity to make any real impression. During the eighty-nine years that India was responsible for the Protectorate not one single penny was made available for any form of development or for the provision of any form of social service. Since 1928 when the Colonial Office became responsible for the 112,000 square miles and the 800,000 or so inhabitants, the average annual subvention would amount to £90,000 or 1.35d. per head of population. A total sum of £2,000,000 has been made available from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund and no direct grant, other than the £10,000 in 1940 for food production, was made for development purposes before the inception of that fund. If the whole or the major portion of this sum could have been devoted to agricultural projects much might now have been completed which has still to be started, but the demands of the Health and the Education Services had to be considered and the improvement of communications was a major item which consumed more than half of this sum, and the amount left for agricultural development, which would

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178 new displacing the old is an inevitable process and provided it is done at a reasonable pace need not be disturbing and is often imperceptible. It is the speed of change which matters, and that is what caused the trouble in the Protectorate. In England the change from horse-drawn transport to motor transport took twenty years or more and there was ample time for readjustment. In Aden it took as many days from the time a new major road was open to motor traffic, and the unemployed camel men sat nursing their rifles and wondering how to prevent their animals and themselves from starving. It was not long before they noticed the weapon in their hands and commenced to use it to drive the lorries off the roads. The State and Political Authorities intervened before too much damage was done and negotiations resulted in agreements which restricted the use of lorries to named kinds of merchandise, and so time was gained for readjustment.
- (184) The Eastern Aden Protectorate was more affected than the Western by road development and on more than one occasion troops had to be used to persuade the camel men and their friends to be sensible and not to interfere with the lorry traffic which might have had very serious consequences. The Wadi
133 Hadhramaut, that vast cut through the limestone plateau of the
312 Jöl filled with palm groves and white-walled towns, peopled
• 241 by the most astute and the hardest business men in the world,
231 was subject to droughts which twice in living memory had
441 led to famine: the reason for this had been that the whole
731 irrigation system depended on the availability of bullocks to
361 draw water from the shallow wells and when, during the
134 droughts, the corn crops had failed, the animals had either to be fed on seed grain or be left to die of starvation; in the former case it meant that when the rains did come, there was no seed to sow, in the latter that there were no animals to draw water.
- 402 The solution was to eliminate the dependence on bullocks and
177 make available to farmers and date garden owners small diesel
241 pumps with which to irrigate their land. They paid cash for
[432] the pumps if they could, or if they couldn't they put down a deposit and paid the balance in monthly instalments. A maintenance service, based on a central workshop, which had been set
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up at Saiyun by the Quaiti and Kathiri States, was provided and was controlled by one of Hugh Boustead's young men. Diesel oil was essential for the pumps and it had to be brought from the coast at Mukalla by lorry, and so it was that the camel men, however disgruntled they might be, must not be allowed to damage the roads or impede the oil lorries.

The pump scheme was supplemented by grain stores set up in the main towns and larger villages and regularly inspected to ensure that the grain had been properly rotated. At each harvest new grain was bought and the old grain sold, thus keeping the stocks fresh. Mercifully all went well with the rainfall during my tour of duty and we did not have to put our anti-famine measures to the test.

I cannot leave the subject of development without making a brief reference to the political side. In most States in the Western area of the Protectorate the old form of complete autocratic government has given place to government by the Ruler with the advice of a Council, and in some States the next stage of development of Councils with executive powers has been reached, while in Lahej there is the further refinement of a Legislative Council. Generally speaking these Western innovations where they exist are only in the kindergarten stage and the Ruler is still the central figure upon whose personality the Government of the State really depends. For instance, there is one important State which has no Council at all, but a very able Ruler who governs justly and firmly and whose finances are in a sound condition; while another and larger State has the whole façade of modern governmental institutions but a Ruler whose real interests are elsewhere and his people do not fare so well and the State's finances would mystify the most astute of accountants. The personality of the Ruler is still of paramount importance, but change is coming swiftly.

In the Eastern area the main progress has been made in the centre, where in the Quaiti and Kathiri States administrations have been firmly established and even Town Councils are functioning with reasonable efficiency. These States have been lucky in having Rulers who had the good sense to pay heed to their able advisers. In the two outlying States, the Wahidi

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ADEN, 1938

Fakum, the last two on the Little Aden Peninsula, are situated in this area. 133

(d) The island of Perim.

DESCRIPTION

The Aden Peninsula is high, rocky and of volcanic formation; 133
Jabel Shamsan, its summit, is 1,725 feet (525 m.) high and there are 504
some turreted peaks close to it. The harbour lies westward and 361
north-west of the peninsula. Crater, the main Arab town, is situated
at a distance of five miles from the modern harbour and lies in the
crater of the extinct volcano on the east of the peninsula.

The isthmus is a flat sandy plain which is barely $\frac{1}{2}$ mile wide at 133
its narrowest point near the peninsula. Cultivation occurs at 311
Sheikh Othman in the form of a large vegetable and fruit garden 241
belonging to the Aden Settlement, but except during the cold 423
weather months produce is very limited. There are also privately-
owned date palms there.

Hiswa has several groves of palms, but with these exceptions there is no regular cultivation in the Colony.

PERIM

Perim Island, situated in the Straits of Bab-el-Mandab, is bare, 133
rocky and rather flat in appearance; its highest point, about a mile
northward of its southern extremity, is 214 feet (65 m.) high. The
surface of the island is grooved with dry water courses and covered
with coarse grass and stunted shrubs, the subsoil being sand and
conglomerate coral. Perim Harbour and False Bay, a small shoal 504
light, lie on the southern side of the island. Perim was at one time
of importance as a coaling station, and the Eastern Telegraph
Company and Lloyd's were represented there. There are now no
commercial concerns on the island.

Climate

There is a third-class meteorological observatory in Aden under 541
the superintendence of the Medical Officer in charge of the European 32
General Hospital. The minimum day temperature recorded was
69.1 in February, 1938, and the maximum was 101.5 in July, 1938.
The rainfall totalled 1.59 centimetres. Hot sandy winds prevailed
as usual during the south-west monsoon. There are no crops in 483
Aden, which depends on supplies from other countries, principally
India and the interior.

The climate of Aden from October to April, i.e., during the north-
east monsoon, is cool and pleasant, especially from November to
February. During the south-west monsoon, i.e. in July and August,
strong winds prevail which give some relief from the damp airless
heat of May, June and September. Sandstorms are apt to occur
in the months of May, June, July and August. These come from a
northerly direction usually a short time before sunset and are often

VIII.—LABOUR

Agricultural Labour

- 241 There being no agriculture in the Colony, the question of agricultural labour does not arise.

Industrial Labour

- 464 Workers for heavy manual labour are obtained from the Protectorate and the Yemen. This form of labour is principally confined to the shipping companies and the salt works. The demand for cargo and coal coolies varies, and the local companies arrange through their agents to recruit labour as and when required. The salt companies employ a permanent staff of coolies who are recruited by local agents from the Protectorate and the Yemen. These agents arrange to replace casualties and recruit extra labour when necessary.

- 466 The interests of the workmen are safeguarded by the Indian Workmen's Compensation Act of 1923, and the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, which are in force in the Colony.

IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING

- 463 The inhabitants of Aden are principally engaged in trading, shop-keeping and domestic employment. The large numbers of coolies employed by the salt-works, shipping concerns and contractors are drawn from the Aden Protectorate or the Yemen. The small harbour craft are manned by Somalis, who take kindly to this form of semi-sedentary employment.

- 464 More than half of the personal servant class comes from the Aden Protectorate and the Yemen. Clerical labour in public offices and large commercial firms is largely Indian, although as education improves more local Arabs are finding employment in Government offices and with European firms. Local Arab firms employ Arab clerical labour almost exclusively.

- 465 Masons and building operatives are drawn principally from the Yemen. The following rates of wages are paid.

Coolies from 8 to 12 annas a day (8 hours).

Masons from 1 to 3 rupees a day (8 hours).

Carpenters from 1 to 3 rupees a day (8 hours).

Clerks from Rs. 35 to Rs. 250 a month (according to grade).

Personal servant Rs. 15 to Rs. 50 a month.

Motor drivers Rs. 40 to Rs. 100 a month.

- 262 The daily staple food of a coolie is 2 lb. flour, 2 ounces of ghee,
435 and also fish or meat to the cost of about 2 annas. The total value
465 of the food consumed daily is about 6 annas.

ADEN, 1937

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 and north-west of the peninsula. Dwelling-houses and shops are 361
 constructed on the ridges of the mountain and in the valleys
 between them where the ground is normally level. Crater, the
 main and original town, is situated at a distance of five miles
 from the modern harbour and lies in the extinct volcano on
 the east of the peninsula.

The isthmus is a flat sandy plain on which has been laid out
 the aerodrome and lines of the Royal Air Force, the Naval wire-
 less station, the Aden Protectorate Levy lines, and the golf
 course. Owing to lack of building space at Tawahi, dwelling-
 houses for senior Government officials have recently been con-
 structed here. It is only 1,320 yards wide at its narrowest point
 near the peninsula. Cultivation occurs at Sheikh Othman in the 241
 form of a large vegetable and fruit garden belonging to the Aden
 Settlement. There are also privately-owned date palms there.

Hiswa has several groves of palms, but with these exceptions
 there is no regular cultivation in the Settlement.

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 Lloyd's signal station being situated there. 5047

Climate.

There is a third-class meteorological observatory in Aden 654
 under the superintendence of the Medical Officer in charge of 122
 the European General Hospital. The maximum day temperature
 recorded was 100.3 in June, and the minimum was 68.1
 in December. The rainfall totalled 8 centimetres. Hot
 sandy winds prevailed as usual during the south-west monsoon.
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The climate of Aden from October to April, i.e. during the 132
 north-west monsoon, is cool and pleasant, especially from
 November to February. During the south-west monsoon, i.e.,
 from June to September, a hot sandy wind known as Shimal
 prevails on the peninsula, but on its western side the breezes are

ADEN, 1937

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The following table shows the value of the most important articles of the export trade for the last five years:— 439

Articles.	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.	1937.
	Ra.	Ra.	Ra.	Ra.	Ra.
Piece goods, grey	30,91,091	36,66,609	50,62,407	40,02,310	40,99,727
Piece goods, white	5,78,526	5,19,395	7,55,098	9,99,452	9,76,935
Piece goods, coloured.	29,83,297	28,28,147	31,77,184	40,86,579	38,87,306
Coffee ...	31,34,717	28,58,217	39,11,003	28,12,927	21,26,392
Skins, raw ...	56,95,317	39,18,447	53,57,094	71,94,785	80,94,619
Hides, raw ...	53,752	82,526	1,27,990	3,25,928	4,75,556
Grain and pulse	27,61,882	16,03,581	24,82,494	27,98,300	36,12,030
Tobacco ...	12,92,646	13,78,639	13,56,710	18,30,367	14,38,868
Provisions and oilman's stores.	5,35,699	5,67,504	6,61,462	5,55,675	6,60,563
Sugar ...	10,87,305	12,06,576	15,02,102	14,57,450	12,20,192
Gums and resins	6,31,467	6,08,409	7,66,767	5,83,822	8,42,817
Salt ...	29,83,410	27,89,402	36,13,997	30,96,141	33,69,418
Cotton twist ...	10,33,532	6,95,806	8,89,717	4,27,177	4,66,793
Spices ...	4,22,202	4,57,992	7,19,220	8,22,421	8,95,923
Oils ...	2,18,332	2,66,069	5,42,149	8,90,763	6,56,495
Metals ...	1,75,122	1,75,551	2,32,203	2,40,826	3,62,868
Animals, living	1,46,590	82,933	1,19,831	40,215	10,153
Tea ...	1,28,488	1,53,255	3,10,864	3,33,660	5,51,726
Dyeing materials	3,02,764	1,64,348	2,25,600	2,87,660	4,23,717
Soap ...	1,07,675	1,10,503	1,87,092	2,71,081	3,15,667
Shells ...	64,967	72,644	1,22,996	1,19,811	1,26,049

VIII.—LABOUR.

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The interests of the workmen are safeguarded by the Indian Workmen's Compensation Act of 1923 and the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, which are applicable in the Colony. 466

PART III

Chapter I : Geography and Climate

THE Colony of Aden is situated in latitude $12^{\circ} 47' N.$ and longitude $45^{\circ} 10' E.$, about 100 miles east of the Straits of Bab-el-Mandeb on the southern coast of Arabia. It comprises :

(a) The Peninsula on which are situated the main town known as Crater, the modern harbour suburb known as Tawahi, adjacent to which is an area leased by the Township Authority to the Air Ministry for Royal Air Force and military purposes, and known collectively as Steamer Point but more particularly by the name of the spurs of Jebel Shamsan, on which buildings have been constructed, and lastly the Dhow Harbour and village of Maala.

(b) The isthmus known as Khormaksar.

(c) An area of land enclosing the modern harbour and extending north and west to the Little Aden Peninsula. The villages of Sheikh Othman, Hiswa, Imad, Buraikha and Fukum (the last two on the Little Aden Peninsula) are situated in this area.

(d) The island of Perim.

The Aden Peninsula is high, rocky and of volcanic formation ; Jebel Shamsan, its summit, is 1,725 feet high, and there are some turreted peaks close to it. The harbour lies to the westward and north-west of the Peninsula. Dwelling-houses and shops are constructed on the ridges of the mountain and in the valley between them where the ground is normally level. Crater, the main and original town, is situated at a distance of five miles from the modern harbour, and lies in the extinct volcano on the east of the Peninsula.

The isthmus is a flat, sandy plain on which have been laid out the aerodrome and lines of the Royal Air Force, the Aden Protectorate Levy Lines, the Singapore Lines and the golf course. It is only 1,320 yards wide at its narrowest point near the Peninsula. Cultivation occurs at Sheikh Othman in the form of a large vegetable and fruit-garden belonging to the Township Authority. There are also privately owned date-palms there.

Hiswa has several groves of palms, but with these exceptions there is no regular cultivation in the Colony.

Salt is manufactured in large quantities on the flat shores of the bay by the process of solar evaporation.

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shrubs, the sub-soil being sand and conglomerate coral. Perim Harbour

OCCUPATION, WAGES AND LABOUR ORGANISATION 9

The cleaning, sorting and packing for re-export of hides, skins, coffee, incense and gum are occupations of considerable importance. Several big merchants as well as small exporters are engaged in these trades. No figures are available, but it is estimated that approximately 2,000 men and women are engaged as casual labour. Apart from some limited employment in domestic service, this is the only work in which women are employed in Aden. 463

There is no agriculture in the Colony, and the only local product is salt obtained from the sea by solar evaporation. This industry employs some 750 regular and 550 casual workers. 241 317

There is no heavy industry in Aden apart from some ship repairing (including floating docks). The light industries are confined to finishing processes using imported materials. The most important of these light industries are the production of aluminium, hollow-ware, soap, calico printing, and a little dyeing and weaving of cotton fabric, the manufacture of furniture and cigarettes. Machinery is used in the aluminium and cigarette factories, and to some extent in furniture making. The textile trade is primitive in the extreme and is entirely hand work. The weaving is done in the home, using primitive looms with hand-thrown shuttles. 438 463 286

Large numbers are engaged in retail trade, the distributive, catering and transport industries, and in small workshops or in independent crafts. Figures more recent than those of the 1946 census are not available. An unusually high proportion of persons are engaged in catering, particularly in small eating houses, coffee shops and in hawking food, tea, coffee and even iced drinking water. This is explained by the large number of immigrant male workers (whose families remain at home) and by the local custom of sending out for cooked food. There are also many domestic servants, particularly small boys employed in homes where purdah prevents the women from marketing. 463 [265]

There is a great deal of casual employment, comparatively few workers have permanent work, unskilled labour is entirely immigrant and dependent to a certain extent on economic conditions in nearby territories. Immigrant workers, whose families remain in their villages, usually return there after about two years. 464

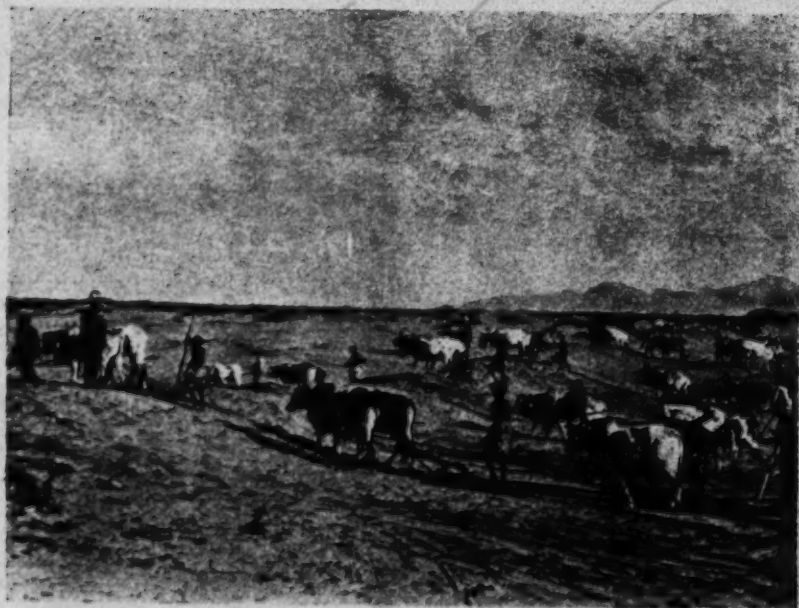
Standards of craftsmanship are low, and the rate of production, quality of tools, and methods of work in general leave much to be desired. Mechanisation is almost unknown and a large labour force is thus employed in such processes as bunkering of coal by hand, and working salt in the pans, as well as, for example, in the building trade where even the wheelbarrow is rarely seen. Commercial firms and the very large number of small locally-owned workshops do not use any proper apprenticeship system. Boys pick up some knowledge as helpers, but are casually employed and may frequently change employment. A general all-round improvement is expected with the opening of the Government Technical College, where night classes for adults 461 [466] 874

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CARPET-MAKING IN THE GAOL

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NEW METHODS OF AGRICULTURE AT ABYAN

Cutting an irrigation canal to bring new lands into cultivation. The scheme is financed by a Colonial Development and Welfare grant.

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PART III

Chapter 1: Geography and Climate

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(a) The Peninsula on which are situated the main town known as Crater, the modern harbour suburb known as Tawahi, adjacent to which is an area leased by the Township Authority to the Air Ministry for Royal Air Force and military purposes, and known collectively as Steamer Point but more particularly by the name of the spurs of Jebel Shamsan, on which buildings have been constructed, and lastly the Dhow Harbour and village of Maalla.

(b) The Isthmus known as Khormaksar.

(c) An area of land enclosing the modern harbour and extending north and west to the Little Aden Peninsula. The villages of Sheikh Othman, Hiswa, Imad, Buraikha and Fukum (the last two on the Little Aden Peninsula) are situated in this area.

(d) The island of Perim.

The Aden Peninsula is high, rocky and of volcanic formation ; 133
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Jebel Shamsan, its summit, is 1,725 feet high, and there are some turreted peaks close to it. The harbour lies to the westward and north-west of the Peninsula. Dwelling houses and shops are constructed on the ridges of the mountain and in the valley between them where the ground is normally level. Crater, the main and original town, is situated at a distance of five miles from the modern harbour, and lies in the extinct volcano on the east of the Peninsula.

The isthmus is a flat, sandy plain on which have been laid out the aerodrome and lines of the Royal Air Force, the Aden Protectorate Levy Lines, the Singapore Lines and the golf course. It is only 1,320 yards wide at its narrowest point near the Peninsula. 133
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Cultivation occurs at Sheikh Othman in the form of a large vegetable and fruit garden belonging to the Township Authority, and there are some privately-owned date-palms there. Hiswa also has several groves of palms, but with these exceptions there is no regular cultivation in the Colony. 241

Perim Island, situated in the Straits of Bab-el-Mandeb, is bare, 133
rocky and rather flat in appearance ; its highest point, about a mile northward at its southern extremity is 214 feet high. The surface of the island is grooved with dry water-courses and covered with coarse grass and stunted shrubs, the sub-soil being sand and conglomerate coral. 134
Perim Harbour and False Bay, a small shoal light, lie on the southern side of the island. It possesses a good small harbour on the south-west side, with an entrance 860 yards in breadth, and a small air landing ground. 368
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PART III

Chapter 1: Geography and Climate

131 THE Colony of Aden is situated in latitude 12° 47' N. and longitude
361 45° 10' E., about 100 miles east of the Straits of Bab-el-Mandeb on the southern coast of Arabia. It comprises :

(a) The Peninsula on which are situated the main town known as Crater, the modern harbour suburb known as Tawahi, adjacent to [7/2] which is an area leased by the Township Authority to the Air Ministry for Royal Air Force and military purposes, and known collectively as Steamer Point but more particularly by the name of the spurs of Jebel Shamsan, on which buildings have been constructed, and lastly the Dhow Harbour and village of Maalla.

(b) The Isthmus known as Khormaksar.

(c) An area of land enclosing the modern harbour and extending north and west to the Little Aden Peninsula. The villages of Sheikh Othman, Hiswa, Imad, Buraikha and Fukum (the last two on the Little Aden Peninsula) are situated in this area, and it is on the Little Aden Peninsula that the new refinery and township are being built.

(d) The island of Perim.

133 The Aden Peninsula is high, rocky and of volcanic formation ;
504 Jebel Shamsan, its summit, is 1,725 feet high, and there are some
361 turreted peaks close to it. The harbour lies to the westward and north-west of the Peninsula. Dwelling houses and shops are constructed on the ridges of the mountain and in the valley between them where the ground is normally level. Crater, the main and original town, is situated at a distance of five miles from the modern harbour, and lies in the extinct volcano on the east of the Peninsula.

508 The isthmus is a flat, sandy plain on which have been laid out the
367 aerodrome and lines of the Royal Air Force, the Aden Protectorate Levy Lines, the Singapore Lines, the golf course and polo ground.

133 It is only 1,320 yards wide at its narrowest point near the Peninsula.

241 Cultivation occurs at Sheikh Othman in the form of a large vegetable
245 and fruit garden belonging to the Township Authority, and there are some privately-owned date-palms there. Hiswa also has several groves of palms, but with these exceptions there is no regular cultivation in the Colony.

133 Perim Island, situated in the Straits of Bab-el-Mandeb, is bare, rocky and rather flat in appearance ; its highest point, about a mile

134 northward at its southern extremity is 214 feet high. The surface of the island is grooved with dry water-courses and covered with coarse grass and stunted shrubs, the sub-soil being sand and conglomerate coral. Perim Harbour and False Bay, a small shoal light, lie on the
504 southern side of the island. It possesses a good small harbour on the south-west side, with an entrance 860 yards in breadth, and a small air landing ground.

M1 Middle East

ADEN H N1

HADHRAMAUT H N2

established to supply the local market—for the processing of soaps, pressed aluminum utensils, cigarettes, pottery and textiles, the extraction of sesame oil, the cutting of buttons from trochas shells and the building of dhows. Fishing is of potential importance, but its development is handicapped by primitive methods of procurement and handling and inadequate local transport facilities. The agricultural resources of the Colony are limited to market gardens and date groves on the oasis of Sheikh Othman.

Agriculture and fishing are the principal occupations of the tribesmen of the Protectorate. The fisheries of the eastern districts are reputed to be among the richest in the Middle East, while the drying and salting of fish and the manufacture of fish oils, fodder and manure are valuable industries in the coast towns. A large proportion of the people in Western Aden Protectorate and the Hadhramaut engage in agriculture, although the tribes of the steppe country are mainly nomadic pastoralists. The expansion of farming is curtailed by uncertain rainfall and shortage of water supply. In the Eastern Aden Protectorate, cultivation is restricted mainly to the middle portions of the Hadhramaut valley, where the river flows for part of the year. This region is historically famous as a source of frankincense and myrrh. Elaborate terracing and irrigation are employed in many areas for the conservation and the utilization of the limited water resources available. It was estimated in 1948 that less than 0.5 per cent of the total land area was suitable for farming, but the relative extent of pasturage and desert has not been determined. Systems of peasant ownership, tenancy farming and tribal land tenure prevail in different localities. The improvement of agriculture and expansion of irrigation are prominent among the development programs for the Protectorate. A co-operative project for the cultivation of cotton and other crops by modern methods has recently been initiated on 5,000 acres in the Abyan area in Western Aden Protectorate. Little

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ably meager. The basic foods are usually breads, dates and milk products, supplemented by vegetables and fruits in season and by varying amounts of meat and fish. Although breads are most frequently prepared from sorghum millet (durra), other forms of millet, as well as maize, wheat and barley are widely used. Rice is generally popular, and large amounts are imported. Dates constitute one of the main food items throughout this region; date palms flourish along some wadies, but the annual crop is inadequate. Numerous types of vegetables and fruits are available in the agricultural areas.

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Sheep and goats are raised in both the Colony and the Protectorate. Their milk is used extensively, but only the pastoral tribes are apt to have a sufficient supply. Cow's milk is also consumed in the Colony and in some inland districts, particularly in Western Aden Protectorate, where the grazing conditions are suitable for cattle. Camel's milk is a staple food among certain Bedouin tribes. Ghee, or clarified butter, is employed in the wealthier families. The fat from the tail tissues of the local breed of sheep, which is an important substitute in the Colony and among the eastern tribes, is almost unknown in Western Aden Protectorate. Sesame is cultivated in many areas, and the oil constitutes another source of fats. Meat is seldom consumed more than once a week, except in the more prosperous households. Fish are plentiful along the coast, and both fresh and dried fish are commonly used in the diet.

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HOUSING

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Several different types of dwellings are found in Aden Colony. In general, the standards of housing are higher than in the neighboring territories. All variations are encountered between the multistoried stone houses of the wealthy Arabs, the modern style villas of the Europeans and official communities, and the one- or two-story structures of stone or mud brick in

A 344

which most of the people live. Regardless